

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 19-30 are presently active in this case. Claims 19-30 have been added by way of the present Amendment. Claims 1-18 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

In the outstanding Official Action, Claims 1, 3-7, and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hogan (U.S. Patent No. 4,781,792) in view of Yoneda et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,314,731). Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hogan in view of Yoneda et al. and further in view of Chiba et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,287,996). Claims 1-7 and 18 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and thus the above rejections have been rendered moot. However, the Applicants submit, for the reasons discussed below, that the pending claims should not be rejected as being obvious in view of the above cited references.

The basic requirements for establishing a *prima facie* case of obviousness as set forth in MPEP 2143 include (1) there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings, (2) there must be a reasonable expectation of success, and (3) the reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all of the claim limitations. The Applicants submit that a *prima facie* case of obviousness cannot be established in the present case because the Hogan and Yoneda et al.

references, either when taken singularly or in combination, do not teach or suggest all of the limitations recited in independent Claim 19.

Claim 19 of the present application advantageously recites a glass for a touch panel comprising a glass substrate having a first principal surface and at least one first side surface at an outermost peripheral edge of the first principal surface. The at least one first side surface is substantially perpendicular to the first principal surface, and the at least one first side surface has a surface roughness of 50 nm or less. The at least one first side surface includes a first laser mark formed thereon, and the first laser mark extends from the peripheral edge of the first principal surface along the at least one first side surface for a depth of 0.06 mm or more. The Applicants submit that the Hogan and Yoneda et al. references, either when taken singularly or in combination, fail to disclose or even suggest all of the above limitations.

The Hogan reference describes a process for etching a glass surface, such as an automobile window. The glass surface is etched using a mask film having a porous support layer with a resist area impervious to a glass etchant composition and non-resist areas pervious to the glass etching composition. As depicted in Figure 4, the mask (10) is placed on the main surface of the glass and the etchant composition is then used to etch the main surface of the glass.

With respect to previously pending Claim 18, the Applicants note that the Official Action cites on page 4 thereof to “figure” in the Hogan reference for a cut side that is an outer peripheral edge of the glass substrate (20). The Applicants are unclear about where in the

Hogan reference such a feature is present. The Applicants respectfully submit that the Hogan reference clearly does not disclose a side surface as defined in Claim 19 of the present application. The side surface recited in Claim 19 is defined as being at an outermost peripheral edge of a principal surface of the glass substrate. Furthermore, the side surface recited in Claim 19 is defined as including a first laser mark formed thereon. The outer most peripheral edge of glass (20) in the Hogan reference is not disclosed as including any type of mark thereon, nor is it described as having the other features of the side surface of Claim 19, such as the claimed surface roughness. As is evident from a review of Figure 5 of the Hogan reference, the etched marking design (24), which is being cited as the mark, is provided on the front face of the glass (20) at a distance spaced apart from the outermost peripheral edge of the glass (20). Thus, the Hogan reference clearly fails to disclose a side surface as defined in Claim 19 of the present application, which is defined as being at an outermost peripheral edge of a principal surface of the glass substrate and is defined as including a first laser mark formed thereon.

The Yoneda et al. reference fails to supplement the deficiencies in the teachings of the Hogan reference described above. More specifically, the Yoneda et al. reference fails to disclose a side surface as defined in Claim 19 of the present application, which is defined as being at an outermost peripheral edge of a principal surface of the glass substrate and is defined as including a first laser mark formed thereon. The Yoneda et al. reference is cited for the general teaching of a surface treated substrate, but does not disclose or even suggest the side surface recited in Claim 19 of the present application.

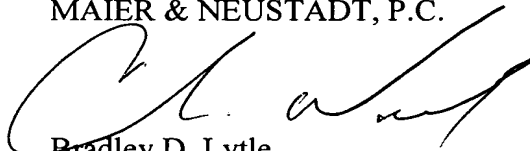
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Thus, Claim 19 is believed to be in condition for allowance. Furthermore, dependent Claims 20-30 are considered allowable for the reasons advanced for Claim 19 from which they depend. These claims are further considered allowable as they recite other features of the invention that are neither disclosed nor suggested by the applied references when those features are considered within the context of Claim 19.

Consequently, in view of the above discussion, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for formal allowance and an early and favorable reconsideration of this application is therefore requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

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